

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested. Claims 2 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice and disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. New claim 19 has been added.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-2, 8, 14, and 18 are objected to because of certain informalities. Claims 1-2, 8, 14, and 18 have been amended to remove the informalities.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1, and 14, and those depend therefrom are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1 and 14 those depend therefrom have been amended to further clarify the subject matter recited therein. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1,15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pik et al. (US 5,321,725) (hereafter Paik) in view of Seshadri et al. (US 6,584,593) (hereafter Seshadri).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2, which has been indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. Applicants believe that amended claim 1 and those depend therefrom are patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 18, which has been indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. Applicants believe that amended claim 14 and those depend therefrom are patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Applicant believes this application and the claims herein to be in a condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have further inquiry concerning these matters, please contact the below named attorney for Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,



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